

REMARKS

Claims 1, 8, 16, and 26 have been canceled. Only allowed and allowable claims 2-7, 9-15, 17-25, and 27-34 are now pending in this application.

IDS

The examiner did not acknowledge the IDS filed June 29, 2007. Applicants request the examiner to acknowledge the same and provide the initialed copy.

Allowed & Allowable Claims

Claims 3-5, 7, 10-12, and 14 have been allowed. Claims 2, 6, 9, 13, and 15 have been amended to ultimately depend from allowed claim 3 or 10. Accordingly, claims 2-7 and 9-15 are in condition for allowance.

Moreover, since non-elected claims 18 and 28 contain all of the elements of allowable product claims 3 and 10, they too, along with their dependent claims 17, 19-25, 27, and 29-34, are in condition for allowance. See the Rejoinder section below.

Rejoinder of Non-Elected Claims

As non-elected independent claims 18 and 28 contain all of the elements of allowed product claim 3 or 10, they also, along with their dependent claims are allowable. Non-elected claims 17-25 and 27-34 **MUST** be rejoined and allowed together with the allowed product claims. See MPEP § 821.04.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that claims 2-7, 9-15, 17-25, and 27-34 are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicants urge the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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26 OCTOBER 2007

DATE

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